

Honoring Our Troops

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Pombo Statement Concerning the Current Situation in Iraq

"President Bush has made a courageous decision to move forward with military action against Iraq. Anytime the decision is made to send our troops in harm's way, it is never easy. I am concerned about our troops and I am praying that we get through this all right. President Bush has given this decision a great deal of thought and prayer, and I support him.

Saddam Hussein has had 12 years to disarm. He has defied 17 United Nations' resolutions demanding that he disarm. He remains a threat and must be removed from power. My thoughts and prayers are with our brave troops and their families.

President Bush has said, 'the Iraqi regime used diplomacy as a ploy to gain time and advantage. Peaceful efforts to disarm the Iraqi regime have failed again and again--- because we are not dealing with peaceful men.' I am confident our nation will meet this threat now, with our Army, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard and Marines, so that we do not have to meet it later with armies of fire fighters and police and doctors on the streets of our cities. I could not agree more."

The Passage of H. Con. Res. 104

Washington, DC—As America moves forward with resolve to disarm Saddam Hussein, the House of Representatives voted for a resolution applauding President Bush for his leadership and honoring our U.S. troops and their families for their dedication and sacrifice. The resolution was overwhelmingly approved by the House of Representatives late last night by a vote of 392 to 11.

H. Con. Res. 104 expresses the unequivocal support of the President as Commander-in-Chief for his firm leadership and decisive action, the members of the United States Armed Forces serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom for their patriotism and bravery, and the families of the United States military personnel serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Reprinted from the House Republican Conference Committee

Communicating with our troops

<http://www.redcross.org/services/afes/comm.html>

American Red Cross communication services keep military personnel in touch with their families following the death or serious illness of a family member or other important events, such as the birth of a child. The Red Cross sends messages quickly, anywhere in the world, including ships at sea, embassies and to isolated military units. The information or verification in a message assists the service member's commanding officer in making a decision regarding emergency leave.

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/military/>

The FCC is proud to announce its campaign "Calling Home" for military service members, Department of Defense civilians, their friends and families.

Difficulty in accessing telecommunications services or just the high cost of calling can keep men and women serving away from home from keeping in touch with their friends and family. The "Calling Home" program was launched in May, 2002, during Armed Forces Appreciation Month.

http://www.uso.org/pubs/8_13_18.cfm?CFID=431275&CFTOKEN=25775845

The United States Services Organizations (USO) delivers special care packages to deployed military. Rep. Bob Ney's office helped coordinate the delivery of 400 care packages to an Ohio National Guard unit preparing for deployment. Constituents can no longer send packages to "Any Service Member" in the aftermath of anthrax attacks, but they can donate \$25 to cover the cost of a package that includes (*cont. in column*)

Flags

Flags will be available in the Stockton office Wednesday March 26, 2002 after 11am and in the San Ramon office by request. Flags are 3x5 nylon and can be purchased for \$9.00 in the office or \$12.20 mailed. We ask that you limit your purchase to one per household. For more info., contact 209-951-3091.

Support our troops rally

The Karl Ross Post and other military organizations will be at a rally to support the U.S. troops Saturday March 22 in the Target parking lot on Pacific Avenue in Stockton starting at noon. Bring your flag and join in to show your support for our troops.

(Communicating with our troops cont.)

a prepaid international calling card, toiletries and sunscreen.

<http://www.esgr.org/>

The Employers Support of the Guard and Reserve (1-800-336-4590) can answer employer questions regarding mobilized employees and their job rights. Unfortunately, the outreach unit of this guard/reservist organization by law cannot have access to the names of the employers of the reservists, so the office has to locate employers on its own.

Family Support Coordinator

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How volunteers can offer assistance to National Guard members and their families that have deployed.